

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HALIFA 00247 081630Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 ERDA-07 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07
FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15
STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 PA-02 PRS-01 /129 W
-----081802Z 117207 /50

P 081610Z JUN 77
FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1663
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS HALIFAX 0247

E O 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV ENRG CA IR
SUBJECT: IRANIAN INTEREST IN BANKRUPT NEWFOUNDLAND REFINERY
REF: HALIFAX 0194 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, GOC'S INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE MINISTER JEAN CHRETIEN RECENTLY MET IN TEHRAN WITH IRANIAN ENERGY MINISTER IRAJ VAHIDI AND WITH SHAH TO DISCUSS PLAN INVOLVING IRANIAN OIL AND POSSIBLY IRANIAN MONEY TO TAKE OVER AND OPERATE AMERICAN PROMOTER JOHN SHAHEEN'S BANKRUPT OIL REFINERY AT COME BY CHANCE, NEWFOUNDLAND. TORONTO'S ROMAN CORPORATION (HOLDING COMPANY WITH 28 PERCENT SHARE IN URANIUM-PRODUCING DENISON MINES LTD) WOULD BE PARTNERED WITH IRANIAN OIL COMPANY AND ROMAN'S PRESIDENT, VINCENT CHAPIN, ACCOMPANIED CHRETIEN ON THE TRADE MISSION TO IRAN.

2. COMMENT: IT UNCLEAR WHETHER ROMAN/IRAN OIL PROPOSAL
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IS ANYTHING MORE AT THIS STAGE THAN SOME SORT OF TRIAL BALLOON. PEAT MARWICK LTD IS REPORTEDLY STILL PLANNING TO SELL REFINERY TO HIGHEST ACCEPTABLE BIDDER AND SPOKESMAN HAS INDICATED READINESS TO ACCEPT TENDER FROM ROMAN CORP BEFORE SEPT 15 DEADLINE.

3. POST NOTES THAT PETER C NEWMAN'S "THE CANADIAN

ESTABLISHMENT" (MC CLELLAND AND STEWART LTD., TORONTO, 1975) STATES THAT "CROWNING VENTURE" OF ROMAN CORP'S STEVE ROMAN WOULD BE PLANNED DOLS 1-BILLION OIL REFINERY HE PLANNING BUILD IN BAHAMAS WITH "ARAB MONEY MEN". PRESENT STATUS THIS PLANNED PROJECT NOT KNOWN HERE. END COMMENT.

MOORE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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